

Wright State University

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Wright State Student Body

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Guidebook app is your guide to getting involved

Angel Lane

Features Editor

Using the [Guidebook](#) app, it is possible to view all events happening on campus on any given day, as well as more detailed descriptions and interaction than a simple website calendar.

Sometimes it's hard to keep track of what is going on around campus, and digging through the different pages of the WSU website can be a hassle when you're trying to quickly find something to do or get involved in last minute event.

"Whether it is an organization that you are a part of that is putting on an event, or if you are just looking for something to do that night or weekend, it is all right there and easily accessible," Traci Strunk said, graduate assistant for the Office of Student Activities. "Events that are on there aren't just for the people in that org."

The app updates new events right away, so students never miss a thing. "If an organization gets approval for an event, it gets sent electronically and gets added to the list. This helps keep the locations and times the most up-to-date for the students," Strunk said.

The app is not solely for Wright State, so once downloaded, it is important to search specifically for the university agenda, titled "Wright State Events".

Guidebook can be incredibly helpful to students who are new to the university and don't yet know their way around, or returning students who are nervous about getting lost at new events.

"There are campus maps and building maps uploaded and then "tagged", so that when the students click on that specific event/location, it will take them to a map of that area and highlight the table, room or location of that event," Strunk said.

OhioLINK saves students money on textbooks

Natalie McDonald

Editorial Intern

Wright State students have many options on where to buy or rent textbooks, but students may not be aware they can access textbooks they need through the Dunbar library.

If the library does not carry what they are looking for, Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK) can almost always find it.

Dunbar reference desk librarian, Maggie Perry, confirmed that any college or university in Ohio collaborates with OhioLINK. Students can find textbooks, research materials and the electronic journal center, according to Perry.

Students can go to the website at OhioLINK.edu, or find the link on WSU libraries' page to begin their search. The central catalog has information for items owned by 120 member libraries, according to the OhioLINK's website.

Over 46 million items can be found, and students can request online items and pick them up at a OhioLINK member library.

Not all searched items - especially those more recently published are guaranteed to be on the catalog.

Depending on how close the item requested is to WSU, textbooks may take up to a week to arrive on campus, so students who need textbooks the same day might want to stay away from OhioLINK.

An item borrowed through OhioLINK is still a library book, be watchful of due dates and renew items when needed to prevent unwanted overdue fines.

Checked-Out material from OhioLINK may need to be renewed more than once throughout the semester, whereas often a book borrowed from WSU's Dunbar Library directly may not need to be renewed continuously.

For more inquiries, students are encouraged to ask a librarian at Dunbar Library.

Evolution of Rowdy Raider

Sarah Cavender

News Writer

Rowdy Raider is the face of Wright State for sporting and social events, but he is not the first mascot of Wright State. Rowdy makes guest appearances at a variety of places, such as birthday requests and community events.

"He is an icon for the school," Joyce Whitaker said, former Spirit Coordinator. The person portraying Rowdy spends a substantial amount of time on "game day characterization," according to Whitaker.

Theme nights are time consuming, according to Whitaker. That includes events such as Rowdy reading a newspaper while sitting in a lawn chair while the opposing team makes its entrance.

WSU has changed its mascot three times during the course of 50 years. The first mascot was a viking, established in 1986, then later changed in the 1990's to a wolf.

"The change from a human to an animal character was for gender equality," Whitaker said. The mascot became a representation of all the students coming to the university with a variety of backgrounds and heritages. The animal became universal, according to Whitaker.

The mascot was changed to a wolf in 2007, because WSU wanted a fierce and strong looking mascot, according to Whitaker.

"The second costume looked so much like a dog, and we wanted a fierce wolf to represent the university," Whitaker said.

Rowdy, who measures at 6'6", has transitioned through around 30 to 50 different students over the course of 20 years, taking on the role of the mascot Raider.

Those chosen to become Rowdy Raider must complete training and practice prior to making an appearance. He is well-known in the mascot circle, according to Whitaker, and was named 'All American Mascot' by the National Cheer Association (NCA).

Rowdy usually places in the top five or ten nationally each year during the NCA competition.

Those who work as Rowdy remain anonymous, but seniors who play Rowdy remove their masks to be honored at the game.

WSU women's soccer drops home opener against Western Michigan

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

The women's soccer team lost 1-0 in double overtime to the Western Michigan University (WMU) Broncos.

Wright State grabbed the momentum early, taking a total of six shots in the first 45 minutes of the game, as opposed to only two from WMU.

Wright State's closest shot at a goal came from freshman forward Erin Graefen, who bounced a header off the right goalpost, just missing the net.

In the final 45 minutes of regulation, WMU took 9 shots. WSU freshman goaltender, Miranda Thomas, thwarted any WMU scoring chance that came her way.

In the final minute of regulation, the Raiders had a shot on goal, but it was blocked by the WMU goaltender. Wright State ended regulation by being out-shot 9-2 in the second half.

The first overtime was a five minute period. WMU kept the ball in their possession for almost the entire period, and they were able to get five shots on goal in only five minutes.

The Raiders weren't able to get a shot off in the first overtime. Thomas continued her outstanding night and kept the game scoreless, thus sending the game into a second overtime.

The second overtime was a 10 minute period, and Wright State was able to gain some momentum by taking two shots towards the goal.

In the final minute of the second overtime, WMU forward Grace Labadie took a free kick and shot it into the upper right corner of Wright State's net, scoring the game winning goal for the Broncos.

Erin Graefen and junior, Aaliyah Patten, each took two shots for the Raiders, leading the team. Miranda Thomas had eight saves as the goaltender.

Wright State's next game is on the road this Sunday, Aug. 27 at Miami University. The Raiders will be back home on Thursday, Aug. 31 to host St.Bonaventure at Alumni Field.

Social media use in the classroom: a tool or a distraction?

Natalie McDonald

Editorial Intern

Some of the most popular social media platforms college students join are Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. It is a way they connect with fellow classmates and professors at the end of a semester.

Friending and following others brings students closer together, and can also be where potential employers make initial connections with students looking for jobs and internships.

One of the reasons senior marketing major, Alina Syed, uses social media is to stay updated with the organizations she belongs to.

“It’s an easy way to stay connected and get the local news or updates,” Syed said.

With more professional platforms like LinkedIn, professors can endorse their students for specific skills. An employer found and hired Syed for a summer internship after finding her on LinkedIn.

On some occasions, professors use a social media platform to connect with students for a particular class where students can upload written content to be shared with classmates and professors.

English professor Robert Rubin has been using Facebook to teach his writing classes for over 10 years. Since his classes are mainly taught in computer labs, Rubin decided to incorporate the popular social media platform as part of his teaching style when he noticed his students were constantly checking Facebook anyway.

“It gives students a real audience to write for. That’s a lot different than a student turning in a paper to a professor,” Rubin said. When that happens, the students “lose the idea of audience.”

Rubin likes how easy it is for students to give each other feedback on Facebook, since they are well versed with the platform.

Rubin believes students need to know digital literacy, which he says using social media in the classroom can teach that.

Students have reported on the end-of-semester evaluations the use of social media in the classroom keeps the class “interesting and organized.”

Not all professors share Rubin’s teaching style, including communications professor Dave Baxter.

With a teaching style that is primarily lecture and testing, Baxter prohibits the use of phones during class since they provide too much of a distraction to students.

Both Baxter and Rubin agree, however, that social media has its disadvantages: the potential to become a distraction during class and certain users who abuse it by instigating arguments or posting something in the heat of the moment.

Men's soccer results in a tie for home opener

Tevin Carter-Tolbert

Sports Writer

The men's soccer team took on the Mastodon's of Fort Wayne, resulting in a tie. This game marked the opening of the season for each team.

This zero to zero tie may have come as a bit of a shock for the Fort Wayne team, as they had not been in a tie since 2014.

Wright State edged Fort Wayne in the total amount of shots, 14 to 13; however, the Mastodon's were able to have five corner kicks while the Raiders only had two attempts.

WSU had four different players with shots on goal, while two others also had shot attempts that were just off target. With all of the shots, both goalies rose to the occasion and kept the opposing forces out of the back of the net.

Along with a high number of shots, penalties were also in high demand. The Raiders received 16 of the 25 penalties given out.

The Raiders come off of winning their first ever Horizon League championship in 2016. Last season, the team posted a 7-1-1 record in their conference games, while holding an 11-6-3 overall record.

Despite the success last season, they were voted to finish third in the Horizon League preseason poll.

The Raiders will be on the road to Morgantown, West Virginia to take on the Mountaineers on Sept. 1.

Wright State alumni share their experiences

Lucas Gonzalez

News Editor

As students return to campus for another school year, alumni shared their college experiences and how to enrich their time at Wright State.

Justin Boggs, a former Sports Editor for The Guardian, graduated with a degree in Political Science. Currently employed at Scripps National, he writes and edits stories, as well as videos and manages web content for up to 30 different web pages.

Working for The Guardian eventually led him to a job at Dayton Daily News, where he met and networked with fellow journalists. Boggs recommended that undergrad students find a balance between classwork and extracurricular activities, and get to know people in their fields.

“The number one thing [for students] is to get real world experience,” Boggs said.

Andy Platt, graduate with a degree in Business, built connections through Student Advisory Council (SAC). Platt currently works as the regional director and financial planner for Northwestern Mutual.

Platt encourages students to make themselves well-known among their professors and to carry themselves with professionalism in and outside the classroom.

He also suggested that students pursue leadership roles in organizations and fields they are passionate about. Platt applauds the Raj Soin College of Business and its professors for their willingness to go above and beyond to advise their students.

Graduate Tiffany Johnson, former Editor-in-Chief for The Guardian, attained a double major in Communications and English. She currently works in the Marketing department at Wright State.

Johnson is also a former employee for Dayton Daily News; a position she attained while still in college while working for The Guardian.

Her advice for students is to build close connections with professors in their fields and to start actively networking as soon as possible.

Amanda Burks graduated from Wright State with an Art degree, and currently works in marketing and public relations in Cincinnati, OH. She cites the Alumni Association as a great resource to meet people, and encourages students to be active members after graduation.

“It’s not about what you know, but who you know,” Burks said.

Problem solving with roommates 101

Richard Hairston

Features Writer

With students moving to campus for a new year at Wright State, it's the perfect time to solve potential roommate issues before they cause reoccurring problems.

Arguments with roommates are bound to arise over a variety of issues.

Petey Sanchez, a resident assistant for campus living, named a few of the most common roommate arguments: "When to take out the trash, when to do the dishes, not cleaning up the bathroom after being used, roommates being messy and their stuff smelling."

When dealing with issues similar to those listed by Sanchez, communication is key. For example, after living with your roommate for a week, discuss how you plan to tackle chores, guests, curfew, etc. This will allow for expectations to be clear for both you and your roommate.

"To solve any roommate problems, the students should talk to each other about their problems," Sanchez recommended. "It's so hard to hold in everything and then just explode. I highly suggest talking to your roommate, let them know how you feel. Let them know what's up rather than holding in anger."

Set time aside with your roommate to have these important discussions, and start your year off right.

Gem City Catfé expected to open this fall

Angel Lane

Features Editor

The Dayton community will soon have it's very own cat cafe - The Gem City Catfé.

"The goal of Gem City Catfé is to foster positive interactions between cats and people, in an expectation free environment," Catfé owner Karin Gudal-Johnson said. "Cats are able to avoid being in a shelter, socialize and find families."

For anyone who isn't ready to be drinking their coffee amongst felines, the setup is accommodating.

"We will have a cafe space with an espresso bar separated from the cat lounge," Gudal-Johnson said. "Our cat lounge will be home to 12 feline friends from our rescue partner, the Humane Society of Greater Dayton. We also plan to have a separate event space for activities like Yoga with Cats, Photography Classes, and workshops with local artists."

WSU student, Jessica Gruber, believes the Catfé will be good for the cat community and her own aesthetic.

"I would love to pet cats and drink coffee. It sounds very aesthetically pleasing," Gruber said.

Although plans are all falling into place, Gudal-Johnson still isn't sure when the Catfé will be open to the public.

"Most frequently asked, yet probably the topic we have the least information about. We are hoping this fall," Gudal-Johnson said. "Our progress has been steady and we're really happy about that, but we have hit some sluggish parts that have caused delays."

The people involved in this new Dayton business are excited about creating an impact in the community.

"We have some amazing, brilliant, hard-working, passionate team members and we all have big plans for ending euthanasia of healthy cats in Dayton, as well as working to do our part in improving our community," Gudal-Johnson said.

Although the Catfé is already staffed, those interested in future opportunities and information are encouraged to sign up for their [e-mail list](#).

Take Flight leadership retreat celebrates 11 years

Lucas Gonzalez

News Editor

Take Flight, a leadership retreat held annually by the Office of Student Activities, celebrated its eleventh anniversary.

The main eight organizations in attendance included WWSU-FM radio station, Student Government Association, Sorority and Fraternity Council, Black Student Union, Rainbow Alliance, RCA and University Activities Board. However, other leadership organizations are encouraged to join in the future.

Every year, a different text is incorporated to fit the theme of the event. This year's selected text was 'Salsa, Soul, and Spirit', which taught students about multicultural leadership.

The main activities were hosted by Camp Joy, which created an inclusive environment and understanding among peers by providing gender-neutral housing and distributing name tags that included gender pronouns.

"The friendliness and support has helped myself and others open up. I loved the sense of community that was present with all of us," Patrick Schmalstig said, a junior who shared their experience.

Activities included interpersonal exercises such as poetry readings, a talent show and a group campfire. Students partook in physical exercises including wall climbing and jumping off a pole into the arms of their team members. The talent show served as a "snapshot for the energy of Take Flight," attendee Jerica Starks said.

One event served as an exercise in understanding poverty. The activity worked by giving groups of students a bag of chips, each with different values. The groups were then organized by the highest, middle and lowest cumulative values. The 'upper' class in this case was allowed to re-write the rules of the game in their favor, in order to stay on top.

Students in the 'lower' class found themselves unable to advance, stuck in a cycle of poverty. This activity taught students understanding and compassion for less fortunate people, and to evaluate the effects of privilege.

Each exercise was structured to teach students about leadership, camaraderie and diversity, as well as make them challenge their own abilities. "They balanced teaching leadership with hands-on application," said Allison Roberts, who helped coordinate the event.

"This year was really special," Gina Keucher said, an event organizer for Take Flight. "It was one of the best Take Flight events."

How to get involved in intramural sports

Tevin Carter-Tolbert

Sports Writer

Whether you're a returning student or a new face on campus, joining an intramural sport is an opportunity to feel united with others on campus.

Campus Recreation offers a wide variety of intramural options, ranging from mud volleyball to flag football, and there's even a FIFA soccer tournament.

Billy Willis, assistant director for competitive sports, stressed the importance of the [IMLeagues](#) website for being able to participate in these different activities. Upon reaching the website, you will be prompted to log in or sign up, and select Wright State.

IMLeagues also offers an easily accessible app that allows you to sign up for the different activities offered.

Nate Griffith, a sophomore, talked of how he enjoyed participating in flag football during his freshman year and plans on adventuring into different sports throughout the rest of his college career.

"I enjoyed that it was a fun way to be active and it also allowed me to build new relationships, while strengthening those that I already had," Griffith said.

Tyler Arthur, a teammate of Griffith from flag football, mentioned, "it was enjoyable to be a part of a team and to just be out there with friends. I also plan on trying different sports while I'm here".

A day in the life of a commuter student

Richard Hairston

Features Writer

Many people believe Wright State University is solely a commuter university, but there are approximately 3,000 students living on the WSU campus.

Taylor Dean, a Mass Communications major, shared insight on her lifestyle as a commuter.

“As a commuter student, I plan out my week or day according to how long it takes me to get to Wright State from my apartment, along with my class schedule and the time it takes me to get to work,” Dean said.

“Planning out time to get ready comfortably without rush in the morning is important, along with making sure you leave with enough time to make it to class on time.”

The importance of leaving early enough to get to class on time is vital for a commuter student. “I only live about 10 minutes away from Wright State, but along with parking, walking and making sure I get my morning cup of coffee, I leave about 20 to 25 minutes early,” Dean said.

Dean stays on campus between classes. “I can do extra work while surrounded by an educational environment,” Dean said. “Schoolwork and being at home don't mix well for me.”

Time management can be difficult, according to Dean, but it but she deems education a priority.

“I always put schoolwork above all, because we pay plenty of money to go to college,” Dean said. “I also put my personal life up there too; we all have to keep our sanity somehow. Homework and work also take up quite a bit of time, as you will find there's not a moment of rest.”

To summarize the advice to new commuters: “give yourself plenty of time in the mornings, coffee will become your best friend and always drive carefully,” Dean said.

Hurricane Harvey displaces over 30,000

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

Hurricane Harvey hit eastern Texas and Louisiana on Friday, Aug. 25 with the worst storm since Hurricane Wilma in 2005. Since 2005, there had not been a hurricane of category three or higher to make landfall in the U.S.

This storm has caused 38 deaths and over 30,000 people to be displaced from their homes, according to CNN.

Harvey originated as a category four hurricane. The winds resulting from Harvey reached as high as 130 miles per hour.

The wind caused major damage throughout eastern Texas, specifically the Houston area. Certain parts of the Houston Metropolitan area received anywhere from 30-50 inches of rainfall throughout the coming days, according to ABC news.

The National Weather Service in Houston reported the record for daily rainfall accumulation has been broken twice. Aug. 26 saw 14.4 inches of rain, and Aug. 27 produced 16.08 inches of rain.

Of the 38 people who have died from the hurricane, 14 of the fatalities have come from the flooding, according to Fox News.

The flooding has prompted a national response from numerous organizations to help with relief aid for the hurricane. According to an estimate from the U.S Chamber of Commerce, companies have raised over 113 million dollars to go to the relief aid in Houston.

There are still several people unaccounted for. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) director Brock Long has called the damage from Hurricane Harvey “the worst disaster in Texas history” and recovering from the storm will take “many years”.

To donate to the relief fund, text HARVEY to 90999 (The American Red Cross) to donate 10 dollars.

Season preview: Wright State Football

Brian Patch

Sports Editor

The Wright State club football team comes off a terrific 2016 season, having been ranked as high as number three in the nation. With numerous starters returning, Wright State hopes to show last years success was no fluke, and they are ready to reach the ultimate goal of a conference championship and postseason play.

The WSU football team is a club team, which competes in the National Club Football Association (NCFA). The NCFA is composed of 26 teams divided into six divisions and four conferences. The winners of the four conferences go on to compete in a 4 team playoff, similar to the format used in division one football.

Jimmy Johnson enters his second full season as the head coach for WSU, and has great confidence in what this team can do.

"This team this year is bigger, faster and stronger then we've had in the past, and we have a lot more physical talent on this years team then we've had in the past," Johnson said.

Johnson expressed nothing but high expectations for the year.

"Expectations this year are nothing short of winning our division," Johnson said. "We should vie for a national title."

A big part of coach Johnson's confidence in the team comes from the players coming together, not only as a team, but as a family. The motto around the team this year is "team on three, family on six".

This mentality has brought the team closer together, and even coach Johnson thinks it has contributed to the change in this years team.

"That's part of the difference now," Johnson said. "It has been a complete culture change, and they're moving in the right direction".

Second year captain Drew Bernal-Danner, a junior slot receiver for WSU, echoed coach Johnson's confidence in this years team.

"Being a captain is more than just the title," Bernal-Danner said. "It's about helping the younger guys. I just try and let them know that hard work truly pays off."

Peter Ngoh, a junior defensive back, showed just how team oriented his attitude is going into the season.

"Besides being the best I can be, I don't really have any personal goals," Ngoh said. "I just want to win a championship. That's all it comes down to."

Coach Johnson believes this team has the talent to win it all. "This team right here, this team will compete for a national title," Johnson said. "If we stay healthy, there's no question about it. We just have a lot of physical talent".

Wright State's first home game is Sep. 30 against Ohio State University's club football team.